

Members

Sen. Robert Garton, Chairman
Rep. Brian Bosma, Vice-Chairman
Sen. James Lewis
Sen. Richard D. Young
Sen. Earline Rogers
Sen. Patricia Miller
Sen. Thomas Wyss
Sen. James Merritt
Sen. David Long Rep. Dale Grubb
Rep. Kathy Richardson
Rep. B. Patrick Bauer
Rep. William Friend
Rep. Eric Turner
Rep. Tim Brown
Rep. Russell Stilwell



LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

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Authority: IC 2-5-1.1

MEETING MINUTES¹

Meeting Date: July 6, 2005
Meeting Time: 10:30 am
Meeting Place: State House, 200 W. Washington St., Room 404
Meeting City: Indianapolis, Indiana
Meeting Number: 2

Members Present: Sen. Robert Garton, Chairman; Rep. Brian Bosma, Vice-Chairman; Sen. James Lewis; Sen. David Long; Sen. Richard D. Young; Sen. Patricia Miller; Sen. Earline Rogers; Sen. James Merritt; Rep. B. Patrick Bauer; Rep. Dale Grubb;; Rep. William Friend; Rep. Eric Turner; Rep. Tim Brown.

Members Absent: Sen. Thomas Wyss; Rep. Kathy Richardson; Rep. Russell Stilwell.

I. Introduction and welcome of Legislative Council members

Senator Robert Garton, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 10:38 a.m. The Chairman welcomed the members of the Council and introduced Ms. Diane Powers, Director of Legislative Services' Office of Fiscal Management and Analysis. The Chairman informed the Council that Ms. Powers would conduct the meeting because Mr. Phil

¹ Exhibits and other materials referenced in these minutes can be inspected and copied in the Legislative Information Center in Room 230 of the State House in Indianapolis, Indiana. Requests for copies may be mailed to the Legislative Information Center, Legislative Services Agency, 200 West Washington Street, Indianapolis, IN 46204-2789. A fee of \$0.15 per page and mailing costs will be charged for copies. These minutes are also available on the Internet at the General Assembly homepage. The URL address of the General Assembly homepage is <http://www.in.gov/legislative/>. No fee is charged for viewing, downloading, or printing minutes from the Internet.

Sachtleben, Executive Director of the Legislative Services Agency, was attending a conference in South Africa. Senator Tom Wyss and Representative Russell Stilwell were excused from attendance. Representative Kathy Richardson was not present for the meeting.

II. Consideration of proposed Legislative Council Resolution (LCR) 05-05 concerning the membership of the Library and Heritage Study Committee as created in Senate Enrolled Act 64-2005

The first order of business was the consideration of proposed LCR 05-05, (See Exhibit 1), concerning the membership of the Library and Heritage Study Committee as created in Senate Enrolled Act 64-2005. The Chairman explained that Senate Enrolled Act 64-2005 established two study committees: The State House Museum Committee and the Library and Heritage Study Committee. The Chairman then explained that the purpose of LCR 05-05 was to verify that the Library and Heritage Study Committee would be composed of eight members. Furthermore, the Chairman stated that those eight members would be the same eight members as the State House Museum Committee. The Chairman explained the reason for this is that the two committees are studying related topics.

LCR 05-05 was unanimously adopted by voice vote.

III. Report of the Legislative Services Agency (LSA) Property Tax Research Program

Next, the Chairman called on Ms. Powers and Dr. Larry DeBoer to present a report of LSA's Property Tax Research Program, and the results of their studies: *Indiana County Property Tax Reassessment Studies: Statewide and County Summaries 2002-2003*, (See Exhibit 2). The presentation focused on the effects of property tax reassessment and restructuring on property tax payments in 72 counties.

Representative Brian Bosma asked Dr. DeBoer if he was discussing 72 or 71 counties in the presentation. Dr. DeBoer stated that he was discussing 71 counties in the statewide statistics. Lake County was excluded from the statewide numbers because the tax bill changes in Lake County were unusually large and their inclusion with the results of the other 71 counties would make those results unrepresentative of the total.

Representative B. Patrick Bauer asked if there was a comparison of property tax payments on rental properties between 2003 and 2004, or the impact of Senate Enrolled Act 1 in 2004. Dr. DeBoer stated that these studies only reported on the changes in property tax payments between 2002 and 2003 and did not encompass any legislative changes made after restructuring.

Senator Earline Rogers asked Dr. DeBoer if he could spend some time talking about Lake County. Dr. DeBoer discussed the unique characteristics of reassessment in Lake County and noted that one of the reasons that Lake County was excluded from the statewide numbers was because the assessment values in residential property almost tripled. Dr. DeBoer also discussed the difficulties in the steel industry in Lake County.

Senator Patricia Miller asked what steps are being taken to gather missing data from Orange County. Ms. Powers explained the various methods used to try to acquire the data.

The Chairman congratulated LSA for their work on this project.

[Note: Copies of the statewide and individual county reports are available in CD format at the Legislative Information Center (LIC), (317) 232-9856, or on the web at www.in.gov/legislative.]

IV. Other Business

The Chairman informed the Council that the presentations regarding the National Conference of State Legislatures' Preemption Monitor and LSA's pilot telephone programs using Voice over Internet Protocol (VoIP) would not be heard until the next Council meeting.

V. Next Meeting

The Chairman stated that there would not be a Legislative Council meeting in the month of August. The next meeting will be held in September.

VI. Adjournment

The Chairman adjourned the meeting at 12:09 p.m.